



Urban District of Whittlesey

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND THE

Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1961.

OFFICERS OF THE WHITTLESEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Medical Officer of Health :

D.C. Logan, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector :

D.A. Bamford, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

OFFICES OF THE WHITTLESEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
6, Delph Street,
Whittlesey.

Telephone No. Whittlesey 2312-3

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	23, 362
Number of Inhabitated Houses	3, 025
Rateable Value (at 31.12.61.)	£114,245
Product of ld. rate (at 31.3.61.)	£463. 19s. 7d.
Population (Registrar General's figures).	9,390

TO:

THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
WHITTLESEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I wish to present my Annual Report on
the health of the population of Whittlesey for the
year 1961.

Once again it is my pleasure to place on
record my grateful appreciation of the work carried
out by my colleagues in the Health Department,
Mr. Bamford and Mrs Tyers.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient servant,

D. C. LOGAN.

Medical Officer of Health.



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VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	85	76	161
Illegitimate	3	3	6
Total:	<u>88</u>	<u>79</u>	<u>167</u>

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population

Whittlesey Urban District	-	17.78
Whittlesey Urban District adjusted	-	17.78
England and Wales	-	17.4

Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births 3.59

STILLBIRTHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	1	2	3
Illegitimate	1	-	1
Total:	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>

Stillbirth rate per 1,000 Live and Stillbirths

Whittlesey Urban District	-	23.39
England and Wales	-	18.7

TOTAL LIVE AND STILLBIRTHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	86	78	164
Illegitimate	4	3	7
Total:	<u>90</u>	<u>81</u>	<u>171</u>

INFANT DEATHS (deaths under 1 year)

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	1	2	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>
Total:	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>

INFANT MORTALITY RATES

Total Infant Deaths per 1,000 Total Live Births

Whittlesey Urban District	-	17.96
England and Wales	-	21.4

There were three infant deaths this year and in all cases severe congenital abnormalities were present which in the present state of medical knowledge are not compatible with survival for any more than a few months. Two were cases of congenital heart disease of varieties that have been dealt with surgically with such encouragingly successful results, but the children whose deaths are recorded did not even reach the stage of being regarded as suitable surgical risks.

The Infant Mortality rate for the town (17.96) was once again below the national average (21.4)

Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births 18.63

Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births 0

NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births) 5.98

EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births) 5.98

PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births) 29.24

MATERNAL MORTALITY (including abortion)

Number of Deaths

Whittlesey Urban District	-	0
England and Wales	-	274

Rate per 1,000 live and still births

Whittlesey Urban District	-	0
England and Wales	-	0.33

DEATHS (ALL CAUSES)

<u>Male</u>	53	<u>Female</u>	34	<u>Total</u>	87
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Death Rate -

Whittlesey Urban District - per 1,000 estimated population	9.26
Adjusted Death Rate - per 1,000 estimated population	10.18
England and Wales - per 1,000 estimated population	12.0

Causes of Deaths in the Whittlesey Urban District, as supplied
by the Registrar General for 1961 :-

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-
Tuberculosis, other	-	-
Syphilitic disease	1	-
Diphtheria	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-
Acute poliomyelitis	-	-
Measles	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	4	1
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-
Diabetes	-	-
Vascular lesions of nervous system	5	5
Coronary disease, angina	9	7
Hypertension with heart disease	1	1
Other heart disease	10	3
Other circulatory disease	1	3
Influenza	-	-
Pneumonia	7	4
Bronchitis	1	-
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-
Nephritis and nephrosis	2	-
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-
Congenital malformations	1	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	2	2
Motor vehicle accidents	6	1
All other accidents	-	2
Suicide	-	-
Homicide and operations of war	-	-
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Total:	53	34
	<hr/>	<hr/>

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

As was to be expected with a large susceptible number of small children there was a large epidemic of measles but no serious complications were encountered. Arrangements exist for the prevention or attenuation of this disease in children under three or debilitated children by giving Gamma Globulin. This same form of protection is available to women up to four months pregnant who may have been exposed to Rubella (German Measles) and who have not had the disease before. Maternal rubella in the first four months of pregnancy may lead to damage of the foetus.

Supplies of polio vaccine throughout the year were erratic and in many cases where a start was made complete protection could not be afforded as subsequent doses of vaccine were unavailable.

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following cases of infectious diseases were notified during 1961 :-

<u>Disease</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Measles	159	149	308
Scarlet Fever	3	5	8
Whooping Cough	1	6	7
Pneumonia	5	2	7
Erysipelas	1	-	1
Poliomyelitis	1	-	1
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	-	1	1
Tuberculosis (Non.Pulmonary)	-	1	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total:	170	164	334
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TO:

THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
WHITTLESEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my sixth
Annual Report on the work carried out in the year 1961.

I should like to thank the Public Health
Committee and the Medical Officer of Health for their
support and to acknowledge the help received from the
Clerk of the Council and the Surveyor. I should also
like to record my appreciation of the way Mrs. Tyers
has carried out her duties which has greatly helped the
smooth running of the department.

I am, Ladies & Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

D. A. BAMFORD.

Public Health Inspector.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

Water is purchased in bulk from the Peterborough Corporation and is treated before delivery. Storage and distribution in the Urban District are under the control of Mr. J.M. Harris, the Surveyor and Water Engineer.

An 8" diameter main from Peterborough delivers the water to a covered storage reservoir of 350,000 gallons capacity. From the reservoir the water is pumped to a water tower of 120,000 gallons capacity and from there it is delivered through mains by gravity throughout the district.

The Council has treated the provision of a supply of water as being important and has laid some 50 miles of mains throughout the district. Because of this go-ahead policy there are only 10 dwellings which do not have a piped supply of water and they are in isolated positions far from mains supplies.

Examination of raw water is done by the Peterborough Corporation at source, the water is chlorinated and distributed without any further treatment. Regular orthotolodine tests at consumer's premises show a satisfactory quantity of free chlorine. Seven samples were taken for bacteriological examination, two taken from new lengths of main were unsatisfactory, the others were satisfactory. After re-chlorination of the new mains further samples were satisfactory.

The water is not plumbo-solvent and the quality has been satisfactory.

The following figures supplied by Mr. Harris show how the demand for water has increased. In the dry summer of 1961 it was found difficult to maintain sufficient water in the reservoir and water tower which led to a shortage of water. The summer demand rose to as much as 450,000 gallons per day.

In 1959 the total average daily consumption, domestic and metered, was approximately 250,000 gallons, by 1961 this figure had risen to 360,000 gallons with an increase in population of only about 350 persons.

The Council became concerned at the increase in consumption and have instructed their Consulting Engineers, Messrs. G.B. Kershaw & Kaufman to prepare a Report on the steps necessary to safeguard the present and future supply of water.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Because of the flat nature of the land the sewerage system relies on pumping and only parts of the area are sewered. It is estimated that of the houses not connected to the sewer 250 have septic tanks, 192 have pails and 38 have vaults. Most of the latter are for sub-standard dwellings which are to be condemned.

The unsatisfactory conditions in part of Snoot's Road which were mentioned last year have again caused the Council concern. Meetings were arranged with the frontagers to try to arrive at an economic solution. However, full support was not reached and as development on this road has continued the Council are considering carrying out the necessary works themselves under the Highways Act, 1959 and charging the frontagers with the costs incurred.

NIGHTSOIL COLLECTION

The Council employs a Contractor to empty pails, vaults and cesspools at properties which are not able to be connected to the sewer.

The number of houses served by pails is gradually decreasing as older houses are modernised and flush sanitation is provided. There were 192 pails in the Contract, these are emptied three times in a fortnight. Septic tanks and vaults are emptied free on request once in any period of six months.

The work of nightsoil collection is unattractive, particularly as far as the collection of pails is concerned. It is a job for which it will become increasingly difficult to obtain labour. There were delays in emptying some septic tanks and the Contractor was requested to make certain that emptyings were completed within the ten days allowed under the Contract.

REFUSE COLLECTION

As the district is part urban and part rural in character the refuse collection is split into two sections. One vehicle with the foreman-driver and three loaders makes weekly collections in the town area. The other vehicle with driver and one loader makes weekly collections in built up outlying areas and three weekly collections in the remainder.

This year a lot of time was lost through illness and it was difficult to maintain regular collections. It is good to report that in spite of these delays very few complaints were received, probably due to the fact that the foreman and workmen continue to give good service in a pleasant manner.

The Dennis 10 cubic yard vehicle which does the outside area collection was scheduled for replacement. The Public Health Committee had two vehicles on demonstration and selected a Shelvoke and Drewry 16/18 cu.yd. fore and aft tipper with compressor. The new vehicle was ordered for delivery in April 1962 and is to be used in the town round to cut down journeys to the tip. The present Shelvoke and Drewry vehicle, which does not have a compressor, to be used in the outside areas.

The vehicles are washed and given normal servicing by the drivers, repairs being carried out by local garages.

Altogether 145,252 refuse bin collections were made in the year, together with trade refuse collected weekly from 31 premises, this resulted in 1,229 journeys to the refuse tip.

	SHELVOKE & DREWRY	DENNIS	TOTAL
Number of bins collected weekly	1,879	918	2,797
Number of bins collected three weekly	-	379	379
Average weekly mileage	59	100	159
Annual mileage	3,074	5,187	8,261
Annual fuel consumption (gallons)	440 (diesel)	778 (petrol)	
Miles per gallon	6.98	6.6	
Journeys to tip	758	471	1,229

REFUSE DISPOSAL

Refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping in a disused gravel pit in New Road. During working hours the tip is open for disposal of rubbish by inhabitants of the district.

Minor infestations of rats occurred and were treated with poison bait as necessary, good control was achieved.

CARAVANS

At the beginning of the year there were thirteen single sites and one multiple site with licences under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960. These were satisfactory.

There were three multiple sites which the Council Council and County Council (the Planning Authority) considered unsatisfactory.

The County Council are preparing details for the running down of these three sites.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There is one registered common lodging house, licensed for 18 persons. Apart from seasonal land workers the premises are not much used. The premises have a communal dining room, a separate kitchen with a sink and water supply and gas rings for cooking. Lodgers use the sanitary accommodation of the public house of which the lodging house is part.

The premises are kept satisfactorily.

INSPECTIONS

The following table summarises the inspections made in 1961 :-

	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Informal Notice</u>	<u>Statutory Notices</u>
Cesspool, pail and vault work	38	4	-
Factories, Workshops and Bakehouses	33	2	-
Slaughterhouses and Butcher's Shops	235	3	-
Food Shops	43	3	-
Restaurants	18	-	-
Verminous and Filthy Premises	2	1	-
Housing	181	17	-
Nuisances	16	4	-
Rats and Mice	67	-	-
Caravan Sites	42	9	-
Refuse Collection and Disposal	68	-	-

Of the 43 informal notices served 41 were complied with.

DISINFESTATION AND DISINFECTION

No infestation of bed bugs was reported or found.

One infestation of fleas was found and the premises treated.

HOUSING

Number of houses erected during 1961 :-

By Local Authority	34 Houses and Bungalows
By Private Enterprise	42 Houses and Bungalows

23 applications were received for Improvement Grants, 23 of which were approved and received grants.

Notices of Time and Place to consider the condition of 14 dwellings were served in the year, and the following action taken :-

Demolition Orders	5
Closing Orders	8
Closing Order in respect of part of a dwelling	1

In addition 1 local authority house was certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health.

All the 6 dwellings remaining from the 1938 Clearance Areas were vacated during the year.

29 dwellings were demolished and 14 families were re-housed from unfit houses.

This year marked the first real movement from condemned houses in the village of Coates, 6 bungalows were erected at South Green, Coates and 5 were used for clearing sub-standard houses. Where possible it is proposed to re-develop the cleared sites in order to preserve the character of the village.

RENT ACT, 1957

A sub-committee of six members appointed to deal with applications did not have any to deal with during the year.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948

Inspections made (under the Factories Act) for 1959

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	22	18	-	-
Factories in which Section 7 is enforced.	40	30	-	-
Other premises	8	9	-	-
TOTAL:	71	57	-	-

Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	Found	Number of Cases in which Defects were found			Number of cases in which Prosecutions were Instituted
		Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness	-	-	-	-	-
Closet Unsuitable or Defective	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL :	-	-	-	-	-

OUTWORK SECTIONS 110 & 111

There are no outworkers in the district

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

ICE-CREAM

There are 38 premises registered for the sale of ice-cream; all the ice-cream being pre-packed. The only loose ice-cream sold in the area is sold from vehicles.

There is no ice-cream manufactured in the area.

CONDEMNED FOOD

7 certificates were issued covering 8 items of foodstuffs which were voluntarily surrendered by shopkeepers.

It was not found necessary to seize any diseased or unsound food.

Condemned food is disposed of by burying in the Council's Refuse Tip.

FOOD PREPARATION

Premises registered for the making up of food	11
Fish Friers	3
Bakehouses	1
Cafes	3
Other food shops	40
Public Houses	32

The standard of food premises and food handling is generally satisfactory. There was one complaint of insects in a pre-packed food, subsequent checking of stocks in the shop, the wholesalers and the manufacturers did not reveal any more infestations.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

The 1st January, 1962 had been selected as the Appointed Day when the existing 6 slaughterhouses would cease to operate. All six were below the standards required by the Slaughterhouse (Hygiene) Regulations, 1958 and were to be discontinued. They were, however, conducted in a satisfactory manner.

Two slaughterhouse occupiers proposed to have modern slaughterhouses, one by improvement of an existing slaughterhouse and one to erect a new slaughterhouse.

Towards the end of the year it was apparant that neither of these slaughterhouses would be completed by the Appointed Day.

The Minister, after representation from the Council, postponed the Appointed Day from the 1st January 1962 to the 1st July 1962. Work on the new slaughterhouse was particularly slow because of delay in obtaining working drawings and non delivery of materials.

KNACKER'S YARD

There is one licensed knacker's yard which is satisfactory.

No live animals are brought on to the premises.

MEAT INSPECTION

Ante-mortem inspection is made whenever possible. All carcasses are inspected except during the period when annual leave is taken outside the district. On these occasions there is a reciprocal arrangement with the Public Health Inspector of the Thorney Rural District Council to inspect if the butcher finds any disease or suspected unfitness.

Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle (exclud- ing cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	54	-	-	693	418	-
Number inspected	51	-	-	669	399	-

All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci

Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	5	-	-	6	6	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis or cysticerci	9.8	-	-	0.89	1.52	-

Tuberculosis only

Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	8	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	2.00	-

Cysticercosis

Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	.					
Generalosed and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

MEAT CONDEMNED

Bovines

1 head and tongue with bruising	28 lbs.
3 parts of legs with bruising	35 lbs.

Pigs

8 heads and tongues affected with tuberculosis	81 lbs.
1 heart and lung with inflammation	4 lbs.
5 livers with cirrhosis	19 lbs.

Sheep

6 livers with distomatosis	19 lbs.
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